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August 16, 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Title I – Parents’ Right-to-Know

The *Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)* was passed by the U.S. Congress late last year and signed into law on December 10, 2015. The *ESSA* replaces the *No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB)* and is the latest reauthorization of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA)*.

Although *NCLB* was designed to make changes in teaching and learning to increase students’ academic achievement, the Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) provision under *NCLB* was eliminated from *ESSA*. Despite this fact, all educators in New Jersey are still required to hold the appropriate state certificate/license for their given position.

Under the *ESSA*, all schools receiving Title I funds are required to inform parents of their right to request information about the professional qualifications of their child’s teachers and paraprofessionals. Our school receives Title I funding, and we are happy to share this information with you upon your request.

New Jersey has some of the most qualified teachers in the country, and we are extremely proud of the quality of the teaching staff here at Middlesex County STEM Charter School. All our regular teachers have a college degree, and many have advanced degrees. In addition, every teacher continues learning through professional development activities, and our teachers are evaluated each year to make sure their teaching skills remain at the highest possible level.

I encourage you to support your child’s education and communicate with your child’s teacher(s) regularly. For more information on *ESSA* and the role of parents, please visit the United States Department of Education’s (USDE) website at <https://www.ed.gov/birth-to-grade-12-education>.

By partnering, families and educators can provide your child with the best education possible.

Sincerely,

Dr. Namik Sercan
Chief Education Officer